

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A support structure for a castor comprising a first member, a second member that is rotatable with respect to the first member about a pivot axis, and magnetic means that is operable up to a certain torque to restrain movement of the second member from one angular position with respect to the first member such that when said castor contacts a surface said castor is restrained from rotating about said pivot axis until at least said certain torque is applied.

2. (Original) A support structure for a castor as claimed in claim 1 in which said one angular position corresponds to a desired registration of the first and second members.

3. (Previously Presented) A support structure for a castor as claimed in claim 1 in which in other angular positions the magnetic means is operable to permit free rotation unless and until re-registration occurs.

4. (Previously Presented) A support structure for a castor as claimed in claim 1, in which the magnetic means is operable to bias the second member into said one angular position when displaced therefrom.

5. (Previously Presented) A support structure for a castor as claimed in claim 1, in which the first and second members have co-axial spaced apart mutually facing surfaces.

6. (Previously Presented) A support structure for a castor as claimed in claim 1, in which the magnetic means comprises at least one magnet.

7. (Previously Presented) A support structure for a castor as claimed in claim 1, in which the magnetic means comprises a plurality of magnetically co-operable components at least one of which is associated with the first member and at least one of which is associated with the second member.

8. (Previously Presented) A support structure for a castor as claimed in claim 1, in which the magnetic means comprises at least one permanent magnet.

9. (Previously Presented) A support structure for a castor as claimed in claim 1, in which the magnetic means comprises at least one ferro-magnet.

10. (Previously Presented) A support structure for a castor as claimed in claim 1, in which the magnetic means comprises at least one pair of magnetically co-operable components.

11. (Original) A support structure for a castor as claimed in claim 10 in which said at least one pair of magnetically co-operable components are the aforesaid first and second members, separate components or at least one separate component.

12. (Previously Presented) A support structure for a castor as claimed in claim 1, in which the magnetic means comprise two pairs of separate magnetically co-operable components and one component of at least one pair of magnetically co-operable components is mounted with respect to each of said first and second members.

13. (Previously Presented) A support structure for a castor as claimed in claim 10 in which a small air gap between the magnetically co-operable components creates a magnetic flux that provides said restraining effect.

14. (Currently Amended) A support structure for a castor, comprising:

- (i) first and second plates located in co-axial, spaced apart relationship so as to provide mutually facing surfaces,
- (ii) bearing means located between the plates whereby one plate is rotatable with respect to the other plate about a pivot axis, ~~and~~
- (iii) one component of at least one pair of co-operable components being mounted on each plate, at least one of which pair of components is a permanent magnet adapted, in one angular position of the rotary plate with respect to the non-rotary plate, to be brought into registration with a relatively small air gap between adjacent surfaces of the two co-operable components to create a magnetic flux that, up to a certain torque restrains rotation, and in other angular positions without registration permits free rotation unless and until re-registration occurs, and
- (iv) wherein said castor contacting a surface is restrained from rotating about said pivot axis until at least said certain torque is applied.

15. (Previously Presented) A support structure for a castor as claimed in claim 1, in which one of the first and second members has an annular skirt or rim extending therefrom toward the other one of the members.

16. (Previously Presented) A support structure for a castor as claimed in claim 15 in which the skirt encloses the magnetic means.

17. (Previously Presented) A support structure for a castor as claimed in claim 1, in which the magnetic means comprise at least one electro-magnet.

18. (Original) A support structure for a castor as claimed in claim 17 and further comprising means to selectively energize and de-energize the electro-magnet.

19. (Previously Presented) A support structure for a castor as claimed in claim 10 in which one component of said at least one pair is a permanent magnet and the other component of the pair is a ferro-magnetic element.

20. (Original) A support structure for a castor as claimed in claim 10 in which both components of said at least one pair are permanent magnets.

21. (Previously Presented) A support structure for a castor as claimed in claim 6, in which a disc is used for said at least one magnet.

22. (Previously Presented) A support structure for a castor as claimed in claim 6, in which the at least one magnet is arcuate.

23. (Previously Presented) A support structure for a castor as claimed in claim 10, in which a plurality of pairs of magnetically co-operable components are used and disposed at spaced positions on a common pitch circle diameter.

24. (Original) A support structure for a castor as claimed in claim 23 in which two pairs of magnetically co-operable components are used that are located 180° apart.

25. (Previously Presented) A support structure for a castor as claimed in claim 10, in which the pairs of magnetically co-operable components are disposed to have confronting faces that are slightly spaced apart to define an air gap therebetween.

26. (Previously Presented) A support structure for a castor as claimed in claim 25 in which means is provided to adjust the spacing between confronting faces of the magnetically co-operable components.

27. (Previously Presented) A castor suitable for a manually movable trolley and comprising a support structure according to claim 1.

28. (Original) A castor as claimed in claim 27 and comprising a wheel, roller or other ground engaging rolling element that is mounted rotatably with respect to a support bracket.

29. (Previously Presented) A castor as claimed in claim 27 in which the support bracket constitutes or forms part of the aforesaid second member.

30. (Previously Presented) A trolley provided with at least one castor as claimed in claim 27.

31. (Original) A trolley as claimed in claim 30 when provided with four castors.

32. (Previously Presented) A trolley as claimed in claim 30 when manually movable.

Claims 33-35. (Canceled)